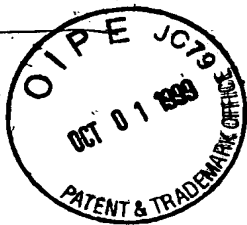


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below:	
<u>9-29-99</u> Date	<u>Jacqueline Hld</u> Signature

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	DelDuca et al.	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Serial No.:	09/384,517	Examiner:	Unknown
Filed:	August 27, 1999	Atty. Docket No.:	PCOS026
For: MODIFIED ATMOSPHERE PACKAGE			

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15.

Please add new claims 16-25 as follows:

16. (New) A modified atmosphere package comprising first and second compartments separated by a partition member, said partition member including a non-barrier portion substantially permeable to oxygen, said first and second compartments being encompassed by an outer wall substantially impermeable to oxygen, an oxygen scavenger activated with an oxygen scavenger accelerator and positioned to absorb oxygen in said first compartment, said second compartment containing a retail cut of raw meat.

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